SENATE EPW GIVES WIN TO CARBON CAPTURE INFRASTRUCTURE

WASHINGTON, MAY 22, 2018 -- The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee today approved the bipartisan USE IT Act, which would support carbon capture technologies through public-private partnerships, carbon dioxide pipeline and other infrastructure improvements and R&D.

The bill is led by EPW Chairman John Barrasso (R-Wyo.) and Sens. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.), Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.) and Heidi Heitkamp (D-N.D.). The same quartet spearheaded passage of the FUTURE Act (S. 1535), which extended and expanded the Section 45Q carbon capture incentive as part of February’s budget deal.

“This is a significant sequel to the groundbreaking 45Q incentive fix,” ClearPath Action Executive Director Rich Powell said. “In passing this bill, EPW has taken another step toward establishing the U.S. as a major global player in commercializing carbon capture technologies.”

The USE IT Act and 45Q incentive have the potential to dramatically boost commercial carbon capture deployment in the U.S., including pioneering efforts such as NET Power that could capture and use the carbon emitted from facilities powered by both coal and natural gas.

The CO2 pipelines and other infrastructure backed by the USE IT Act could send the captured carbon to oil fields, which in turn can lead to significant increases in enhanced oil recovery and other economic benefits.
S. 2602 directs EPA to use existing authority to support research for carbon capture and utilization and direct air capture. It also clarifies that carbon capture projects and carbon dioxide pipelines are eligible for expedited permitting reviews; directs the White House Council on Environmental Quality to establish guidance to assist project developers and operators of carbon capture facilities and CO2 pipelines; and establishes task forces to hear input for updating and improving guidance.

MEDIA CONTACT:
Darren Goode
Communications Director
ClearPath Action
goode@clearpathaction.org

About ClearPath Action

Founded by businessman Jay Faison, ClearPath Action’s mission is to accelerate conservative clean energy solutions. To advance the mission, ClearPath Action develops cutting-edge policy and messaging and works with policymakers and industry.